

DUAL COSMETIC CONTAINER

The present application is a continuation-in-part of our co-pending application Serial No. _____, filed _____, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to the field of cosmetic packaging, in particular cosmetic packaging that is attractive and at the same time provides multiple cosmetic products in a form that conserves space particularly in a women's purse, pocket book or other carrying device.

Background of the Invention

Cosmetics is a major industry today with a myriad of different products. Many consumers use a variety of such products as lip treatments, facial powders and creams, eye shadow, eye liner, nail polish etc. Moreover, users of cosmetics frequently have an active lifestyle and partake of many activities during the day. Unfortunately, many cosmetic products can become smudged, worn away etc., over time during the day. As a result, there is a desire by many users to carry many of these products along with them during the day and re-apply them as

needed. Many users carry these items in a purse, pocket book, back pack, satchel or other carrying device.

Although carrying devices such as purses come in a variety of sizes they all share one common feature. Frequently, no matter how large the purse or pocket book, it is never quite large enough or light enough for the active consumer. There always seems to be a need to add more items to the purse. Yet users are constrained by size and space limitations. Frequently, there is insufficient room for each of the items desired to be included by the consumer. Similarly, many of the cosmetic products come in large sizes that take up considerable volume in the carrying case.

One approach to solving the space issue is to provide smaller products i.e, travel or purse size cosmetic products such as mascara, perfume, powder, lip treatments, etc. that are small in size thus increasing the number of items that can be stored in a purse. While these petite items enhance the portability aspect of the product being packaged, there is a downside in that the quantity of product present in the package is reduced thus reducing the value to the consumer. Another problem with the smaller sized packages is the difficulty that the user has in finding the desired product in a reasonable period of time. In a large purse or pocketbook where there are a number of items both cosmetic and non cosmetic stored, the smaller size of the travel versions of the product have a tendency to become buried in the bottom of the purse thus rendering it difficult to locate the item.

Accordingly, there is a need for an improved cosmetic package for cosmetics that is capable of being stored in a purse handbag or other accouterment in as little space as possible.

Objects of the Invention

It is an object of the present invention to provide a cosmetic container that occupies less space in a purse or bag.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a combination package for carrying two or more cosmetic products preferably different cosmetics products in a single package.

It is an object of the invention to provide a combination package for carrying two or more products and wherein there is at least one roll on applicator for applying a product.

It is an object of the invention to provide a combination package for carrying two or more products where the product contained in each portion of the combination package is the same product.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a roll on applicator in one portion of the device and a device for applying an eye product in the second portion of the

device.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a roll on applicator containing a product containing a fragrance and a second roll on applicator containing an lip product in a single unitary package.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a roll on applicator for dispensing a product and device for applying a nail product in a single package.

It is an object of the present invention to provide dual container wherein the first portion of the container is a roll on applicator for applying a product containing a fragrance and the second portion of the container contains a nail product.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a roll on applicator for dispensing a product and a device for applying a facial product in a single package.

It is an object of the present invention to provide dual container wherein the first portion of the container is a roll on applicator for applying a product containing a fragrance and the second portion of the container contains a facial product.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a lip product that may be applied by a container having a rollerball type dispenser and a device for applying an eye product in a

single package.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a lip product that is applied by a container having a rollerball type dispenser and a device for applying a facial product in a single package.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a lip product that is applied by a container having a rollerball type dispenser and a device for applying a nail product in a single package.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention is for an improved cosmetic package that provides the user with two cosmetic materials in a single dual ended container. At least one of the containers preferably has an applicator that is in the form of a rollerball dispenser. In one embodiment, the present invention preferably provides a product that may be applied by a rollerball applicator in at least one end of such device. Typical products include liquids, semi liquids, materials of a pasty consistency and very fine powders. Preferably at least one end of the container has a rollerball applicator containing a product having a fragrance. The container typically has a pair of receptacles that are connected together by means of a center sleeve that is typically round in cross-section, although any cross-sectional shape is possible. The sleeve is preferably longer than its width of its cross section and the sleeve is preferably open at each end. The sleeve is provided

with a means for connecting a receptacle containing preferably at least one rollerball applicator to the sleeve such as for example a threaded connection, a snap on fitting or a friction fit. The other receptacle can be a combination container and applicator for an eye shadow, a mascara, a nail polish, a powder etc.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 shows a side view of the container of the present invention with a rollerball applicator in one end of the sleeve and container having a doe foot type applicator in the second end of the sleeve.

Figure 1A is a side view of the sleeve of the container of Figure 1

Figure 1B is a view of the circular cross section of the sleeve of Figure 1A taken along A-A.

Figure 1C is a side view of the cap for the sleeve of Figure 1A.

Figure 2 shows the container of Figure 1 with the components separated.

Figure 3 shows a side view of the container of the present invention having a rollerball applicator in one end of the sleeve and a nail type brush extending from the second end of the sleeve into a container in a single package.

Figure 4 shows the container of Figure 5 with the components separated.

Figure 5 shows a side view of the container of the present invention wherein the sleeve has a first rollerball in one end of the sleeve and a second rollerball in the second end of the sleeve.

Figure 6 shows the container of Figure 5 with the components separated.

Figure 7 shows a side view of the container of the present invention having a rollerball applicator for a facial product in one component and an eye product in a single package.

Figure 8 shows the container of Figure 7 with the components separated.

Figure 9 shows a side view of the container of the present invention for a facial product and an nail product in a single package.

Figure 10 shows the container of Figure 9 with the components separated.

Figure 11 shows a side view of the container of the present invention for a pair of facial products in a single package.

Figure 12 shows the container of Figure 11 with the components separated.

Figure 13 shows the arrangement of the present invention where there is a rollerball applicator on one end of the sleeve and the other end of the sleeve has a mascara type brush extending from the cap in the sleeve.

Figure 14 shows the container of Figure 13 with the components separated.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The dual cosmetic container 10 of the present invention has a central body or sleeve 11 (See Figure 1A) that has a first end 12 and a second end 13 and which may be hollow throughout its entire length or at least have two portions thereof each for receiving and preferably retaining an end of a receptacle containing a products such as one of many different types of

cosmetic type products. The sleeve 11 may have a cross-section or any shape, however, the cross-section will typically be round or square, elliptical or ovoid. In one embodiment, the sleeve may have two sections 14 and 15 which are connected by a sidewall 16. The first section 14 and the second section 15 are preferably opened and are preferably threaded on their interior surface so that they are adapted to receive a threaded end of a receptacle which contains a product.

Alternatively, the first section 14 and the second section 15 may be adapted to receive and connect with the end of a receptacle that has any other type of connecting means such as a bayonet fitting or a snap fitting for retaining a receptacle in the sleeve. In some instances a friction fit may also be satisfactory. The receptacles may be held in place by any other means known to those skilled in the art.

In one embodiment, the sections 14 and 15 may have a pair of conventional threaded caps, see Figure 1C, inserted into the sleeve with the caps in a head to head relationship. The caps have a side wall 17, an end wall or head wall 18 and an open end 19, the interior of which may be threaded. When two caps are inserted into the sleeve, the end wall 18 of each are typically in contact with each other or the sidewall 16. The open ends of the sleeve 12 and 13 correspond to the open end of the caps 19. The body or sleeve 11 may be any length but it is preferably only of sufficient length to contain the pair threads or other receiving means for receiving a pair receptacles as well as the center wall, if present, that separates the products contained in each receptacle.. The sleeve 11 may be made of any suitable material such as a metal or plastic, preferably a polished or matte metallic finish. Where caps are inserted into the sleeve, the central body 11 may also be any length but is preferably only of sufficient length to accommodate the caps at the first and second ends and the end walls of the caps. Where a pair of

threaded caps are placed in a head to head relation in the sleeve preferably, the center axis 20 of each cap is preferably generally lined up with the other cap in a generally straight line. In addition, the center axis 21 of the sleeve and the center axis 20 of each of the caps preferably similarly line up in a generally straight line.. Although depicted with the caps in an end to end relation one skilled in the art will appreciate that the ends need not be in a head to head position but rather, the heads may be off set.

Removably attached to each cap is a receptacle 22 for containing a product such as a cosmetic product. This receptacle may be of any shape. However, in a preferred embodiment the central body 11 is round in its cross section and the receptacles are also round and both the central body and the receptacles have diameters that are generally similar. In a more preferred embodiment the diameter of the receptacles and the diameter of the central body 11 are generally the same. In another preferred embodiment the cross-section of the receptacles and the cross-section of the central body are not round but are generally the same shape.

In one embodiment, at least one receptacle may be provided on its open end with a roller ball applicator 23 for applying product onto the user. In order to prevent essential oils and/or moisture from unnecessarily escaping from the receptacle the roller ball may have a spring that seats the ball firmly in the rim 24 of the receptacle. The arrangement of the rollerball and spring are described in more detail in our United States Patent No. 5,526,960, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference. The rollerball of the present invention may be colored as described in more detail in our United States Application Serial No.09/515,955 the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

In one embodiment, as shown in Figure 1 one of the receptacles 22 is intended for a product containing a fragrance including but not limited to a perfume containing product and the other receptacle 25 is for an eye product, a lip product, or other product that may be applied by a doe foot type applicator 27. A doe foot applicator is an applicator that has a soft absorbent material at the end of the applicator. Doe foot applicators are usually used for applying lip products, facial products eye products and others. The perfume product may be any product that contains a fragrance and can be a liquid, a semi-liquid or pasty consistency or an solid. The perfume product may be dispensed in any suitable fashion such as by a small orifice in the threaded end of the receptacle. Alternatively, the perfume may be dispensed by means of a spray applicator removably connected to the receptacle or a rollerball applicator as discussed above. The eye product may be a mascara, an eye liner, etc. In another embodiment the eye product may be dispensed by a rollerball arrangement in a receptacle similar to the receptacle 22 as described above, by an applicator 26 that extends from the cap into the receptacle or other suitable means. In one embodiment the applicator may be a doe foot applicator 27. Alternatively, instead of a doe foot applicator 27, a brush like a mascara brush can be used. Also, one or both ends of the applicator may have a cosmetic serum present and be applied by any of the applicator means described

In another embodiment, the rollerball receptacle 22 may contain a liquid lip product, lip stain, lip gloss or other lip product. The other receptacle 25 may contain the same or a different type of lip product such as a clear or colored lip gloss, lip stain, liquid lip, etc., that may be applied with a doe foot applicator or another rollerball applicator. Similarly, the rollerball receptacle 22 may contain a clear lip gloss and the other receptacle 25 may contain a lip stain that

may be applied with a doe foot applicator 27. In still another embodiment the rollerball applicator 25 may contain a facial product such as a blemish control material and the other receptacle 25 may contain the same or different facial product such as a concealer. In a further embodiment the rollerball applicator 25 may contain a facial product such as a concealer and the other receptacle 25 may contain the same or different facial product such as a blemish control material.

Figure 3 shows the container of the present invention is for a product that may be dispensed by a rollerball applicator as discussed above and an nail product in a single package. The receptacle 32 may contain a nail product. The nail product may be a nail polish or a hardener that is applied over a nail polish etc. The nail product may be dispensed by means of an applicator that is in the form of a brush 30 or other suitable means. The brush 30 may be attached to the inside of the cap by a shaft 31, generally located toward the center of the inside top surface of the cap in the sleeve. By the term cap is meant a cap as shown in Figure 1C or the threaded interior of the sleeve where the side wall 16 constitutes the surface for appending the shaft.

In addition to the embodiments depicted in Figures 1-4, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 one receptacle 33 may be used for a facial product such as a powder, a cream, concealer, blemish control material, etc. The facial product may be dispensed by a number of means. In one embodiment, the facial product may be dispensed by means of a receptacle 33 having a rollerball arrangement as described above. In one embodiment, the rollerball arrangement may be provided with a spring as described above. The surface of the roller ball be smooth or slightly roughened

depending on the consistency of the product to be dispensed. Alternatively, the facial product may be dispensed by means of a brush that is attached to the inside surface of the cap and which extends into the receptacle where it contacts a facial material such as blush, powder, cream etc.

Figure 7 and 8 show a container of the present invention for a facial product and an eye product in a single package. Figure 9 and 10 show a container of the present invention for a facial product and a nail product in a single package.

Figure 9 and 10 show the container of the present invention where the receptacles have a pair of facial products in a single package. In one embodiment one receptacle may have a facial powder and the other a blush. Although depicted with a rollerball applicator, the applicator for the facial product may also be a brush. Figure 11 shows a side view of the container of the present invention for a pair of facial products in a single package. Figure 12 shows the container of Figure 11 with the components containing the facial products being separated. Figure 13 and 14 show the arrangement of the present invention where there is a rollerball applicator on one end of the sleeve and the other end of the sleeve has a mascara type brush extending from the cap in the sleeve. The container may contain any product that may be applied by that type of brush such as mascara etc.